**Mr. K. M. Ibrahim** *(Cranganur)* I second it.

*Motion put and carried*

### (9) The Cochin Specific Relief Act (Amendment) Bill

**Mr. V. J. Mathai** *(Planters)*: I move for leave to introduce the Cochin Specific Relief Act (Amendment) Bill.

**Mr. A. Eachara Menon** *(Chittur-Rural)*: I second it.

*Motion put and carried*

## RESOLUTIONS

### Resolution No. 10

### Constituting an Economic Development Board in the State

**Mr. V. J. Mathai** *(Planters)*: I move that the Economic Development Board may be instituted in the State.

**Mr. Parambi Lonappan** *(Diwan Peishkar)*: Before the Hon'ble Member moves his resolution, I wish to bring to the notice of the Hon'ble Member that if he is prepared to give us some idea about the economic board in Travancore Government will be seriously considering about the feasibility of introducing one here. I do not think that there is any necessity for an elaborate discussion on the resolution.

**Mr. V. J. Mathai** *(Planters)*: I really appreciate the action of the Government in this matter. It is not necessary to take up the time of the House on this. The Government says that they will certainly consider the matter. I may however for the elucidation of the public, make one statement. My idea is this. These are times in which the question of the economic development of the State is standing in the forefront. Whether it be in the matter of food production, in the matter of rural development or development of bee industry, dairy farming, development of the mineral resources and timber resources, we find governments are actively taking them up and our Government is not lagging behind either. Governments all over the world are now actively taking up this question of economic development of their States. Objections have been raised against the Governments directly taking up any industry on theoretical grounds. But theory alone is not enough. In practice it is found that there is no harm in governments directly undertaking industries. Mysore is an example. Russia, which is now a copy, I am glad to say, for all democratic countries today, has gone to the farthest limit. There, even the farms are run by the Government—even the children are looked after by the Government. For the development of a State its economic resources should be tapped. This fact has been recognised by all civilised governments and every step is taken by every Government to see that every effort is made in that direction. Recently I read that the Orissa Government has started an economic development board and that gave me the idea. This board ought to consist of the representatives of the economic interests of the State should have powers of impulsion. They must be able to move schemes before the government, whether it be, the Anamalai Road Scheme, or the Dairy scheme, which the Hon'ble Minister mooted today. This power to bring to the notice of the Government schemes for the economic development of the country should vest in a body and they should advise the Government that such and such a scheme is necessary. The government may consult that body and with their help they may launch them. You will remember that certain schemes have been started in Cochin without the advice of any of us, though this House was taken into confidence in the case of the Chalakkudi-Anamalais scheme. There should be a body which the Government should consult on such matters. In Travancore, such a body exists, consisting of the Director of Industries, the Chief Engineer, the Electrical Engineer and all the experts, besides certain economic interests like commerce, planting and such other interests and the board has been existing for a very long time and is even now functioning. I am very glad to note that the Government will very seriously consider this point. Though I formally moved it, I do not think it necessary to press the matter to a division.

**Rao Sahib I. N. Menon** *(Director of Public Instruction)*: Government are prepared to institute a Board of this nature for the specific purpose as the Hon'ble Member for Planters said for advice and for implusion, if necessary. An Economic Development Committee once existed in the State. From 1926—32, it existed and to some extent it functioned. I had the good fortune in my capacity as the Director of Industries and Labour Commissioner to preside over a few of its meetings. It was also my privilege to have been to draft as President of the Committee, the first Bill to give State aid to industries. That body was wound up in 1107 as



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